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# State of Utah

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

### Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
Executive Director

JOHN R. BAZA  
Division Director

### Inspection Report

#### Minerals Regulatory Program

Report Date: November 13, 2006

Supervisor 

**Mine Name:** Ziegler Chemical and Mineral Operations  
**Operator Name:** Ziegler Chemical and Mineral

**Permit number:** M0470013  
**Inspection Date:** October 31, 2006  
**Time:** 9:20-10:45 AM

**Inspector(s):** Paul Baker  
**Other Participants:** Valyn Davis (Ziegler)  
**Mine Status:** Active

**Weather:** Clear, 40's

Elements of Inspection	Evaluated	Comment	Enforcement
1. Permits, Revisions, Transfer, Bonds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Public Safety (shafts, adits, trash, signs, highwalls)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Protection of Drainages / Erosion Control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Deleterious Material	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Roads (maintenance, surfacing, dust control, safety)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Concurrent Reclamation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Backfilling/Grading (trenches, pits, roads, highwalls, shafts, drill holes)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Water Impoundments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Soils	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Revegetation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Air Quality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### Purpose of Inspection:

The BLM recently approved an exploration proposal which had not been submitted to the Division. I was concerned the operator might have been conducting exploration without approval.

#### Inspection Summary:

##### 1. Permits, Revisions, Transfer, Bonds

On September 18, 2006, the Division received a copy of a letter addressed to the BLM requesting approval to drill on the North Cowboy Vein. The Division sent a letter to the operator asking for more complete information and also asking for a minerals exploration progress report.

##### 6. Concurrent Reclamation

The operator has completed most reclamation at the Cowboy Mine. The access road was gouged (Photo 1), and facilities have been reclaimed except the building shown in Photo 2. Surface preparation has not been done except on the access road, and the operator has not yet seeded any of the site.

##### 12. Other

The operator had planned to do exploration drilling at the mine on the Cowboy South Vein nearest SR 45 but decided not to pursue this plan. Instead, a previously-approved shaft is being dug on the Cowboy North Vein to the northwest of the existing facilities (Photos 3-4). Excavation is being done with hand tools—chipping hammers, shovels, buckets, etc.

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**Conclusions and Recommendations:**

The gouging that was done on the access road does not cover the entire area. The gouged areas look very nice, but there are spaces between the gouges where it is unlikely anything will grow. The operator should consider re-preparing the surface on the access road. In the future, surface preparation should cover essentially the entire area that will be seeded.

Although I prefer gouging as a roughening technique, it may be more economical to rip flatter areas.

Inspector's Signature LBRL Date: 11/13/06

PBB:pb

cc: Valyn Davis, Ziegler  
Gordon Ziegler, Ziegler  
Stan Perkes, State BLM Office  
Pete Sokolosky, Vernal BLM

Attachment: Photos



**ATTACHMENT**

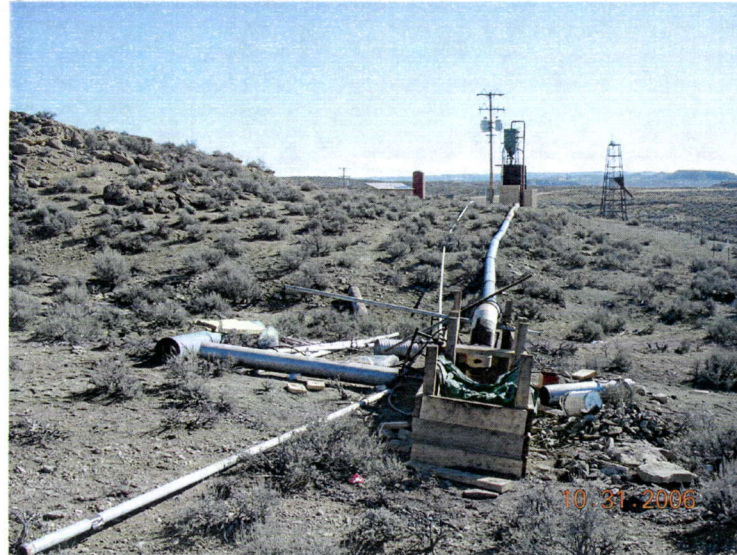
**Photographs**

**M0470013, Ziegler Chemical and Mineral Operations, Ziegler Chemical and Mineral**

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**Photo 1. The reclaimed access road is in the foreground. Note the roughening.**



**Photo 3. New shaft of the Cowboy North Vein. Note the wood collar. Excavation is being done by hand.**



**Photo 2. The Cowboy Mine site. Reclamation has been completed except for removal of this building, final grading, surface preparation, and seeding.**



**Photo 4. Another view of the shaft on the Cowboy North Vein.**